

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 7 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 4-6 have been amended. Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takano. However, the Examiner has indicated that claims 3-5 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant has canceled claims 3 and 7 and included all of the allowable subject matters of claims 3 and 7 into their respective independent claims 1 and 6. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to be dependent on claim 1. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection is deemed moot and claims 1-2 and 6 are now believed allowable.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claim 8 is allowable over the prior art of record.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8 are now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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